

Virginia Asian Advisory Board Meeting
Friday, December 9th, 2022
12:00 PM- 4:30 PM
Richmond, Virginia

Zoom Link: Topic: VAAB Meeting
Time: Dec 9, 2022 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join ZoomGov Meeting:
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1605678939?pwd=RWxBQUhFMUg1K01KZFdCcnNmT3ZHQT09>

Board Members:

Dr. Melody Abisit
Ms. Suja Amir
Ms. Laura Beldin
Dr. Lisa Chen
Mr. Paul Chhabra
Ms. Rowena Finn
Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick
Dr. Nina Ha
Mr. Razi Hashmi
Mr. Justin Lo
Ms. Salinna Lor
Mr. Boa (Bobby) Ly
Mr. Praveendhara (Praveen) Meyyan
Ms. Carla Okouchi
Dr. Marie Sankaran Raval
Mr. Ssunny Shah
Professor Da L. "Linda" Sheth
Ms. Quan Schneider
Mr. Jewan "Jack Jewan" Tiwawri
Mr. Pient Tran
Mr. Henry Yuan

In-Person Attendance:

Virginia Asian Advisory Board Members: Dr. Melody Abisit, Dr. Lisa Chen, Ms. Rowena Finn, Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick, Dr. Nina Ha, Mr. Justin Lo, Ms. Salinna Lor, Mr. Praveendhara (Praveen) Meyyan, Ms. Carla Okouchi, Ms. Quan Schneider, Ms. Ssunny Shah

In Attendance Virtual

Virginia Asian Advisory Board Members: Ms. Laura Beldin, Mr. Jewan "Jack Jewan" Tiwawri, Mr. Henry Yuan

Community Member: Suzanne Holland

12:00 p.m. Lunch & Board Fellowship

**12:40 p.m. Welcome
Call to Order**

Suja Amir
Chair, Virginia Asian

Overview

Advisory Board

12:42 p.m. Board Administration Update

Gloria Senecal
Director of Board Administration

Introduction of Gloria Senecal, taking over Suzanne Holland's role.

Next week, Suja Amir and Justin Lo will be talking to the Governor next week (December 14th) for 30 minutes.

Next year, we pick out the next VAAB's Board Meeting dates.

January meeting will be voting on new Executive Board.

Virtual VAAB Meeting will be January 23rd, 2023 from 12 pm - 4:30 pm.

Suja will send out links (Doodle Poll) for the rest of the VAAB Meeting times and availability.

If you are interested in hosting the meeting in your area, please let Gloria know. That person will take the lead on the details.

Virginia Beach as a possible location.

Sunny Shah: In the past, after the VAAB meeting, there would be a Town Hall meeting afterwards. Many community members got involved.

Suja: Try to make the dates compatible with community involvement and investment.

Gloria: Please let Gloria know about Townhall meetings. Make sure to filter the Town Hall suggestions with Suja, Justin, and Gloria.

12:55 p.m. Chair's Report

Suja Amir

*Chair, Virginia Asian Advisory
Board*

Please add the following information in the Final Report: 1. Events/Outreach Activities (along with people who were invited to speak at the events); 2. References (Make sure to check references and ensure that they are accurate.)

Reimbursements for the Board members.

Make sure to keep copies of all the receipts and information that you send to Gloria.

If reimbursement is needed, please make sure to provide date and actual amount that you need for reimbursement. Provide all information.

VAAB Elections:

Positions that will be open:

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Make sure to get in the nominations by January 9th.

Gloria will reach out to each person who was nominated. A person needs to make a paragraph statement.

Need to know:

Whose term is over?

Need to reapply to be reappointed for the new term.

Gloria will send out information about people's term limits.

Director of Board Appointments

Nancy Dye Nancy.dye@governor.gov

Make sure that people are interested and have actually applied to be appointed.

**1:22 p.m. Report Overview/Vote on Report
to the Governor**

Suja Amir & Justin Lo

*Chair & Vice Chair,
Virginia Asian Advisory Board*

Main Points of the Report:

Health Committee:

Melody Agbisit:

Continue what was shared in the previous report.

Medical professionals are suffering from burnout and not continuing with their licenses.

Discrepancies in disaggregated data.

Language access continues to be a barrier not only in the AAPI communities but also the LatinX communities.

Lack of representations within the providers and professors who teach about Asian American issues.

Lack of data collection. There are some groups who are not getting their needs met because they are perceived as not in need.

Workforce piece - AAPI communities are invisible

Virginia Health Workforce did a study. This study will inform legislation for next year.

AAPI communities are heterogeneous and quite diverse; however, without disaggregation or targeted research, there will be more gaps and challenges.

Still pushing for Telehealth. Some insurance companies are cutting pay for providers and reimbursements are also being cut.

Business Committee:

Praveen:

Expounded on recommendations from 2021.

Thanks to Henry for assistance.

Six Recommendations:

More effort to collect demographic and disaggregation of AAPI Population

Encourage inter-agency collaboration

Getting businesses SWAM certified

VA slipped to #3 for best state to encourage business.

Lowering barriers for businesses to start a business. Encourage Chinese to be the next language to offer licensing exams.

Continue to monitor and engage corporations. Encourage AAPI corporations. Include Asian American holidays and have a shared sense of culture.

Continue to engage different Asian ethnicities. Continue Trade and Business - Boost trade from different Asian countries. Promote trips overseas.

Provide assistance to hotel and tourist industry, especially in terms of hiring cleaning staff and other workforce. Work with different government agencies to help with workforce development and provide grants and financial assistance. Hotel and tourism were worse hit during Covid. Close to 260,000 employees. (Add statistics in the Report!)

Civic Engagement Committee:

Justin

Documenting work the Committee did.

Engagement in the voting.

How does Government engage with AAPI communities.

How do AAPI communities engage with the Government.

Translation (funding)

There are a lot of resources for AAPI voters who may not know about these resources. Reaching out to AAPI voters.

Preserving the virtual meeting provision. Allow for public information gathering. Continue fact gathering virtually.

Requested for funding earmarked for conducting work like having Town Halls.

Holding public forums on specific topics.

One topic was Public Safety.

Second topic: New American Committee.

Emphasize need for very targeted conversations.

Good to have focused conversations.

Specific conversations:

Need for better Hate Crimes Training.

Need for better reporting of hate crimes. Hate crimes training is only for higher ups and not those who need to report these incidents.

Office for New Americans need more funding from the state.

Underfunded for non-refugee population.

State government representation.

Absence of pipelines - feeding AAPI candidates into state government.

Concerted effort to appoint AAPI in the Executive Branch.

Education Committee:

Thank the entire team.

Focus:

Carla:

AAPI curriculum/lack of AAP curriculum.

Importance of being represented in the curriculum.

AAP Studies in K-12 and higher education

Financial assistance for English Language Learners

There are 0 AAP Superintendents in Virginia

Request for documentation of administrators in Education

Pipeline for AAPI educators and Education Administrators

Public Health and Safety
Layered mitigation strategies
Have a remote learning options
Masks for all
Investing in outside dining areas
All classrooms equipped with HEPA air purifiers
Dealing with Long-Covid recovery
Paid leave

Fine Arts facilities spaces
Lack for theater/dance/music space. Facilities audits for arts spaces

Invest for new construction for all fine arts disciplines.

**1:52 p.m. August Meeting Minutes Approval
November Meeting Agenda Adoption**

Nina Ha
*Secretary, Virginia Asian Advisory
Board*

August Minutes Approval
Melody Move
Ssunny Shah Second
All approved

2:00 p.m. Break

2:15 p.m. Strategic Planning for Next Year

Suja Amir
*Chair, Virginia Asian Advisory
Board*

If you have people you want to nominate for the Board.

“Fact Gathering” can be a webinar. Only one committee member will facilitate.

Gloria will be coordinating a Webinar on Policy. Release on Policy date - December 15th.

March 13th VAAB Meeting 12 pm - 4:30 pm (In-person) - Richmond

May 21st and May 22nd VAAB Meeting 12 pm - 4:30 pm (In-Person) - Virginia Beach [Possible change of date (May 21st/22nd - Sunday, May 21st Town Hall with Monday, May 22nd VAAB Meeting)]

July 31st VAAB Meeting 12 pm - 4:30 pm (Virtual) - Finalize Report?

September 18th VAAB 12 PM - 4:30 PM [Report] - In-Person - Richmond

October 16th VAAB - Roanoke/VT - In-person Town Hall

3:00 p.m. Committee Breakouts

3:45 p.m. Public Comment

Justin Lo

Vice Chair, Virginia Asian Advisory Board

No one

3:47 pm

Motion to vote on Report

Change.

Tom - Approve the Report with edits by the Chair. Substance of the Report doesn't

Carla - Second

3:55 p.m. Closing Remarks and Announcements

Suja Amir

Chair, Virginia Asian Advisory Board